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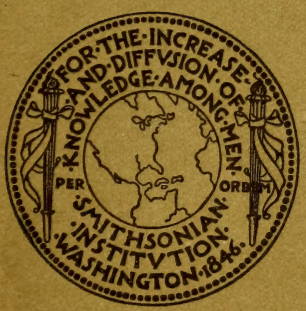
UNITED STATES NATIONAL HERBARIUM

VOLUME 24, PART 4

NATIVE NAMES AND USES OF SOME PLANTS OF EASTERN GUATEMALA AND HONDURAS

By S. F. BLAKE



WASHINGTON
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PREFACE.

The present paper by Dr. S. F. Blake, of the Bureau of Plant Industry, United States Department of Agriculture, contains a list of the native names and uses of the plants collected by the botanists who accompanied the Economic Survey Mission sent out in the spring of 1919 by the United States Department of State for the purpose of making a survey of the economic resources of the region in eastern Guatemala and Honduras lying between the Motagua and Chamelecón Rivers. The time spent in the field by the expedition was so short that the list is necessarily incomplete, but it contains much new and useful information, especially on the wild medicinal plants, and should be of service to travelers who may visit the same region.

FREDERICK V. COVILLE,
Curator of the United States National Herbarium.

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NATIVE NAMES AND USES OF SOME PLANTS OF EASTERN GUATEMALA AND HONDURAS.

By S. F. Blake.

INTRODUCTION.

In the spring of 1919 an Economic Survey Mission of the United States State Department, headed by the late Maj. Percy H. Ashmead, made a brief examination of the natural products and resources of the region lying between the Chamelecón Valley in Honduras and the Motagua Valley in Guatemala. Work was also done by the botanists of the expedition in the vicinity of Izabal on Lake Izabal. Descriptions of the new species collected by the expedition, with a short account of its itinerary, have already been published by the writer,[1] and a number of the new forms have been illustrated. The present list is based wholly on the data and specimens collected by the botanists and foresters of this expedition—H. Pittier, S. F. Blake, G. B. Gilbert, L. R. Stadtmiller, and H. N. Whitford—and no attempt has been made to incorporate data from other regions of Central America. Such information will be found chiefly in various papers published by Henry Pittier,[2] J. N. Rose,[3] and P. C. Standley.[4]

LIST OF NATIVE NAMES AND USES.

Acacia sp. Cachito. Cornizuelo. Iscanal. Fabaceae.

Acacia sp. Lagarto. Sanpedrano. Fabaceae.

A tree up to 25 meters high and 45 cm. in diameter. The wood is used for building.

Acalypha sp. Costilla de danta. Euphorbiaceae.

[1] Contr. U. S. Nat. Herb. **24**: 1–32. *pls. 1–10, f. 1–4.* 1922.

[2] Ensayo sobre las plantas usuales de Costa Rica. Pp. 176, *pls. 31.* Washington, D. C., 1908.

[3] Notes on useful plants of Mexico. Contr. U. S. Nat. Herb. **5**: 209–259, *pls. 28–64.* 1899.

[4] Trees and shrubs of Mexico. Contr. U. S. Nat. Herb. **23**: 1–169. 1920. This first part includes Gleicheniaceae to Betulaceae. The second part (Fagaceae to Fabaceae) is in press.

Achiotillo. See *Vismia ferruginea.*

Achras chicle Pittier. NÍSPERO. ZAPOTILLO (?). (PLATE 29.) SAPOTACEAE.

A tall tree, with medium-sized entire leaves and clusters of white flowers. This species, according to Mr. Pittier,[5] is the source of most of the chicle used in the manufacture of chewing gum, rather than *Achras zapota* L.

EXPANATION OF PLATE 29.—*Achras chicle,* from the type specimen, *Pittier* 8537, Guatemala. Natural size.

Aguacatillo. See *Phoebe ambigens.*

Alcatraz. See *Aristolochia gigas.*

Alelí. See *Gynandropsis speciosa.*

Almendro. See *Lonchocarpus izabalanus.*

Amaranthus spinosus L. HUISQUILETE. UISQUILETE. AMARANTHACEAE.

A spiny weed, abundant in the tropics.

Amate. See *Ficus crassiuscula.*

Andira excelsa H. B. K. (?)[6] GUACAMAYO. FABACEAE.

A tree up to 30 meters high and 0.5 meter in diameter. The wood is used for furniture and for building.

Andira inermis H. B. K. CHAPERNO. FABACEAE.

The heart wood of this tree is very dark and takes a good polish.

Andropogon leucostachys H. B. K. COLA DE VENADO. POACEAE.

A grass with a plumy inflorescence.

Annona glabra L. ANONILLO. ANNONACEAE.

Anoda hastata Cav. MALVAVISCO. MALVACEAE.

An herb with angled leaves, reddish along the midrib, and magenta flowers. The plant is used to make a wash for venereal diseases.

Anón de montaña. See *Cymbopetalum sp.*

Anonillo. See *Annona glabra.*

Ardisia sp. CAMACO. MYRSINACEAE.

Aristolochia gigas Lindl. ALCATRAZ. CHUMPA. ARISTOLOCHIACEAE.

A twiner with large sac-shaped lurid maroon flowers, the lower lip provided with a slender tail six inches long or more.

Arrayán. See *Myrica mexicana.*

Aspidosperma megalocarpon Muell. Arg. FUSTÁN DE VIEJA. APOCYNACEAE.

Astronium (?) sp. CIRUELO. PALO OBERO. RONRÓN. ANACARDIACEAE.

A tree up to 35 meters high and a meter thick. The trunks are used for house posts.

Baccharis rhexioides H. B. K. BARBA FINA. ASTERACEAE.

A leaning shrub, with small white downy pistillate flower heads.

Bactris sp. HUIZCOYOL. PHOENICACEAE.

A slender palm about 5 meters high, with a very spiny stem, and leaves about 1.5 meters long. The fruit is said to be violet and edible.

Balsa. See *Ochroma bicolor.*

Baltimora recta L. MIRASOL. ASTERACEAE.

A small weedy yellow composite. The name *mirasol* is used in Latin American countries for many different yellow-flowered composites.

Barajo. See *Cassia alata.*

Barba fina. See *Baccharis rhexioides.*

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[5] Pittier, Journ. Washington Acad. Sci. 9: 431–438. 1919.

[6] In a few cases the specific identity of the specimens collected by the expedition is in doubt, owing to the imperfect condition of the material preserved. This is indicated in the list by the addition of a mark of interrogation to the scientific name.

Barbasco. See *Serjania mexicana.*
Barrabas. See *Vitex longeracemosa.*
Bayal. See *Desmoncus* sp.
Bejuco chaparrón. See *Davilla kunthii.*
Bejuco comemano. See *Cissus sicyoides.*
Bejuco de culebra. See *Mandevilla auriculata.*
Bejuco de ratón. See *Stigmaphyllon mucronatum.*
Bejuco negro. See *Cordia ferruginea.*
Bellucia costaricensis Cogn. MANZANO DE MONTAÑA. MELASTOMATACEAE.
A tree, with clusters of medium-sized pinkish white flowers on the branches, broad leaves, and edible fruits.
Biophytum dendroides (H. B. K.) DC. CULANTRO DE PIEDRA BLANCA. OXALIDACEAE.
A low plant with a cluster of pinnate leaves and pinkish flowers.
Borraja. See *Heliotropium indicum.*
Borreria sp. YERBA DEL TORO. RUBIACEAE.
A small herb with white flowers. The fresh infusion is drunk for diseases of women.
Brosimum terrabanum Pittier. MASICO. MORACEAE.
A tree with milky juice, reaching a height of 30 meters and a diameter of a meter.
Brosimum utile (H. B. K.) Pittier. PALO DE LECHE. MORACEAE.
Buchnera elongata Swartz. FLOR DEL CIELO. SCROPHULARIACEAE.
A slender erect unbranched herb with violet flowers, used to decorate altars.
Buchnera lithospermifolia H. B. K. TRONERO DEL MONTE. SCROPHULARIACEAE.
Like the last, but with white flowers. Heated and applied externally in bunches for headache.
Buddleia americana L. HOJA BLANCA. LOGANIACEAE.
Byrsonima crassifolia (L.) DC. NANCÉ. MALPIGHIACEAE.
A small tree with erect spires of yellow flowers, turning orange in age. Fruit yellow and edible.
Cachicahua. See *Indigofera lespedezioides.*
Cachito. See *Calyptocarpus vialis,* also *Acacia* sp.
Calán. See *Calycophyllum candidissimum.*
Calathea insignis Peters. MÓHAN. MARANTACEAE.
An herb with canna-like leaves and a terminal spike of yellowish pink flowers inserted in thick conspicuously two-ranked scales.
Calliandra sp. SILE. FABACEAE.
Calocarpum mammosum (L.) Pierre. ZAPOTE. SAPOTACEAE.
A tree up to 25 meters high, about 45 cm. thick, with milky sap. The wood is used in building.
Calophyllum sp. SANTAMARIA. CLUSIACEAE.
A tree up to 30 meters high, nearly a meter thick, with a yellow sap. Wood used for ties and general building purposes.
Calycophyllum candidissimum DC. CALÁN. RUBIACEAE.
Calyptocarpus vialis Less. CACHITO. ASTERACEAE.
A small yellow composite with two-spined fruits.
Camaco. See *Ardisia* sp.
Caña de Cristo. See *Costus cylindricus.*
Cañafístola. See *Cassia fistula.*
Cañamito. See *Sideroxylon* (?) sp.
Canilla de pajuíl. See *Crusea* sp.
Canilla de pava. See *Polygonum punctatum.*

Caoba. See *Swietenia macrophylla.*

Capriola dactylon (L.) Kuntze. PELO DE MACHO. POACEAE.

A small widely distributed grass.

Carbón colorado. See *Cupania macrophylla.*

Carboncillo. See *Matayba* (?) sp.

Caricillo. See *Ischaemum latifolium.*

Carizo. See *Lasiacis sorghoidea.*

Casearia corymbosa H. B. K. VARA BLANCA. FLACOURTIACEAE.

A small tree with close clusters of white flowers.

Cassia alata L. BARAJO. (PLATE 30.) FABACEAE.

A shrub with yellow flowers, forming a cluster of radiating pods in fruit. An infusion of the root is used for rheumatism, and is also a powerful drastic.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE 30.—*Cassia alata,* from *Palmer* 201 (leaves), Mexico, and *Cook & Doyle* 48 (fruit), Costa Rica. Natural size.

Cassia fistula L. CAÑAFÍSTOLA. FABACEAE.

A tree with simply pinnate leaves and drooping racemes of large yellow flowers. An infusion of the beans is used as a medicine for fevers.

Cassia laevigata Willd. FRIJOLILLO. FABACEAE.

An herb with yellow flowers. The seeds are used for coffee. The plant is steamed and applied to the body for sickness, especially in women.

Cassia tora L. EJOTIL. FABACEAE.

Castilla fallax Cook. HULE CHIRRIO. TUNO. MORACEAE.

Caulote. See *Guazuma ulmifolia.*

Cecropia sp. GUARUMO. MORACEAE.

Cedrela longipes Blake. CEDRO. MELIACEAE.

A tree up to nearly 30 meters high and 0.8 meter in diameter. The wood is used for furniture and for house building.

Cedro. See *Cedrela longipes.*

Ceibillo. See *Zanthoxylum* sp.

Cenicero. See *Iresine arbuscula.*

Cerezo. See *Miconia schlimii,* also *Neea psychotrioides.*

Chacotote. See *Croton repens.*

Chamaedorea concolor Mart. PACAYA. PHOENICACEAE.

Chamaedorea ernsti-augusti Wendl. PACAYA GUARITA. PHOENICACEAE.

Chaparro. See *Curatella americana.*

Chaperno. See *Andira inermis.*

Chaptalia nutans (L.) Polak. VALERIANA. ASTERACEAE.

A composite with a tuft of basal leaves, green above and white-woolly beneath, and one or two long-stalked heads with reddish-purple rays and creamy center. The root is used medicinally.

Chapupo. See *Tabernaemontana amblyblasta.*

Chelonanthus acutangulus (Ruiz & Pav.) Gilg. TABAQUILLO. GENTIANACEAE.

A tall herb with green tubular flowers, found only in the mountains.

Chichipate. See *Sweetia panamensis.*

Chichipín. See *Hamelia erecta.*

Chile del monte. See *Stenorrhynchus* sp.

Chilillo. See *Polygonum punctatum.*

Chipilín de la montaña. See *Crotalaria sagittalis.*

Chirca. See *Croton ciliato-glandulosus,* also *C. xalapensis.*

Chlorophora tinctoria (L.) Gaud. MORA. MORACEAE.

A sparsely spiny tree up to 20 meters high, used as a dyewood.

Chozo. See *Licania hypoleuca.*

Chrysobalanus icaco L. Icaco. ROSACEAE.

A tree with white flowers, roundish veiny leaves, and blue-black plumlike fruits 1.5 to 2 cm. long, their flesh edible, sweetish but without special flavor.

Chumpa. See *Aristolochia gigas.*

Ciega vista. See *Croton ciliato-glandulosus.*

Ciruelo. See *Astronium* (?) sp.

Cissus sicyoides L. Bejuco comemano. VITACEAE.

A vine with inconspicuous greenish flowers. Used for washing clothes.

Citrus aurantiifolia (Christm.) Swingle. Limón. RUTACEAE.

Clusia utilis Blake.[7] Quiebramuela. CLUSIACEAE.

A shrub 6 meters high, growing along the shore of Lake Izabal, with thick obovate leaves and rosy white flowers. The fruit is green, tinged with maroon; the seeds are surrounded by an orange aril. The buffy yellow juice of the fruit is administered on cotton for toothache. The fruit, cut across, is used by the Indians to stamp clothes, making a 6 or 7-rayed starlike figure of a permanent brown or blackish brown.

Cojón de gato. See *Tabernaemontana amblyblasta,* also *Thevetia plumeriaefolia.*

Cojón de mico. See *Tabernaemontana amblyblasta.*

Cola de marrano. See *Pithecollobium arboreum.*

Cola de mico. See *Pithecollobium arboreum.*

Cola de venado. See *Andropogon leucostachys,* also *Lasiacis procerrima.*

Comida de paloma. See *Lantana camara.*

Compsoneura sprucei (A. DC.) Warb. Sangre. MYRISTICACEAE.

A small tree, up to 8 meters high. The bark contains a red sap.

Contamal. See *Guazuma ulmifolia,* also *Luehea seemannii.*

Contonron. See *Luehea seemannii.*

Contrayerba. See *Dorstenia contrajerva houstoni,* also *D. drakena.*

Cordia ferruginea Roem. & Schult. Bejuco negro. BORAGINACEAE.

Cordia gerascanthus L. Laurel. BORAGINACEAE.

A tree up to 25 meters high and 50 cm. in diameter. The wood is used for ties and general construction.

Cordon. See *Piper rohrii.*

Cordoncillo. See *Piper aduncum, P. donnell-smithii,* and *P. jalapense.*

Cornizuelo. See *Acacia* sp.

Cornutia pyramidata L. Hoja de zope. VERBENACEAE.

Cortez. See *Tecoma* sp.

Costilla de danta. See *Acalypha* sp.

Costus cylindricus Roscoe. Caña de Cristo. ZINGIBERACEAE.

An herb with broad leaves and a thick spike of orange-red flowers.

Crotalaria sagittalis L. Chipilín de la montaña. FABACEAE.

An herb with simple leaves, yellow flowers, and "rattle-box" fruit.

Croton ciliato-glandulosus Ort. Chirca. Ciega vista. EUPHORBIACEAE.

The glandular hairs of the leaves and stem of this species adhere to the hands and injure the eyes when introduced.

Croton draco Schlecht. Sangre de drago. EUPHORBIACEAE.

Croton repens Schlecht. Chacotote. EUPHORBIACEAE.

The root is used for stomach troubles.

Croton xalapensis H. B. K. Chirca. EUPHORBIACEAE.

Crusea sp. Canilla de pajuíl. RUBIACEAE.

An herb with violet flowers. Doves are said to eat the fruit.

Cuaulote. See *Guazuma ulmifolia.*

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[7] For illustration see Contr. U. S. Nat. Herb. **24**: *pl. 4.* 1922.

Cuje. See *Inga spuria.*

Culantrillo. See *Dichromena radicans,* also *Pectis bonplandiana.*

Culantro de piedra blanca. See *Biophytum dendroides.*

Cupania macrophylla A. Rich. CARBÓN COLORADO. SAPINDACEAE.

A tree up to 10 meters high and 20 cm. in diameter.

Cura-gusano. See *Tridax procumbens.*

Cura-mesquino. See *Euphorbia brasiliensis.*

Curatella americana L. CHAPARRO. DILLENIACEAE.

Cuturo. See *Piper aduncum* and *P. rohrii.*

Cuturo negro. See *Piper rohrii* and *Piper* sp.

Cydista pubescens Blake. ITO. BIGNONIACEAE.

Cymbopetalum penduliflorum (Dunal) Baill. ANON DE MONTAÑA. ANNONACEAE.

A tree 12 to 18 meters high, the bark furnishing a good rope.

Davilla kunthii St. Hil. BEJUCO CHAPARRÓN. DILLENIACEAE.

A vine with roundish very rough leaves. In fruit the inner sepals are indurated and closely approximated, simulating a capsule.

Decazyx macrophyllus Pittier & Blake.[8] MANGLE. RUTACEAE.

A large tree common about Los Ranchos, Honduras, with large entire dotted leaves and small white flowers. The wood is used for building.

Desmoncus sp. BAYAL. PHOENICACEAE.

Dialium divaricatum Vahl. TAMARINDO. TAMARINDO PRIETO. FABACEAE.

A tree up to 30 meters high, 0.6 meter in diameter. Wood used for ties, posts, bridges, and houses.

Dichromena radicans Cham. & Schlecht. CULANTRILLO. CYPERACEAE.

A grasslike herb with white-based involucral leaves.

Dioclea reflexa Hook. f. OJO DE MONO. FABACEAE.

Dolicholus phaseoloides (Swartz) Kuntze. FRUTA DE PITILLO. FABACEAE.

A twiner with red and black seeds.

Doradillo. See *Myrcia* (?) sp.

Dorstenia contrajerva houstoni L. CONTRAYERBA. MORACEAE.

An herb with arrow-shaped basal leaves and a crisped green yellow-bordered receptacle bearing the tiny crowded flowers. An infusion of the root is used for coughs and stomach troubles.

Dorstenia drakena L. CONTRAYERBA. MORACEAE.

The infusion is used for stomach troubles.

Drago. See *Virola merendonis.*

Echites microcalyx A. DC. FLOR DEL MICO. APOCYNACEAE.

A twiner with orange-yellow flowers.

Echúa. See *Euphorbia heterophylla.*

Ejotil. See *Cassia tora.*

Elaphrium simaruba (L.) Rose. PALO CHINO. PALO JIOTE. BURSERACEAE.

A tree up to 25 meters high, 0.5 meter in diameter, with milky juice. The wood is used for making charcoal.

Eleocharis sulcata (Roth) Nees. TULE CHIQUITO. CYPERACEAE.

Elephantopus hypomalacus Blake. OREJA DE COCHE. ASTERACEAE.

Said to be a good fodder plant.

Encino. See *Licania arborea,* also *Quercus citrifolia.*

Eneldo de montaña. See *Salvia tiliaefolia.*

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[8] For illustration see Contr. U. S. Nat. Herb. **24**: *pl. 8.* **1922.**

Enterolobium cyclocarpum (Swartz) Griseb. GUANACASTE. FABACEAE.
A tree up to 30 meters high, 1 meter thick, with large ear-shaped pods. Wood used for houses and furniture.

Epidendrum fragrans Swartz. LIRIO. ORCHIDACEAE.
This and the following species belong to a large genus of bright-colored epiphytic orchids.

Epidendrum varicosum Batem. LIRIO. ORCHIDACEAE.

Eriosema diffusum (H. B. K.) G. Don. GUAPILLO. FABACEAE.
An herb with trifoliolate leaves and yellow flowers. The fresh infusion is drunk for diseases of women.

Escorzonera de jiquilite. See *Indigofera lespedezioides.*

Eupatorium pycnocephalum Less. TÉ. ASTERACEAE.
A composite with lavender flowers. Leaves used to make a sudorific tea.

Euphorbia brasiliensis Lam. CURA-MESQUINO. EUPHORBIACEAE.

Euphorbia heterophylla L. ECHÚA. EUPHORBIACEAE.
An herb with the upper leaves more or less blotched with red. The infusion is taken for diseases of the chest.

Ficus costaricana (Liebm.) Miquel. HIGO. MORACEAE.

Ficus crassiuscula Warb. AMATE. MORACEAE.

Ficus hemsleyana Standl. MATAPALO. MORACEAE.
One of the strangler figs.

Flor de la vida. See *Melanthera hastifolia.*

Flor del cielo. See *Buchnera elongata.*

Flor del mico. See *Echites microcalyx.*

Flor del tamiz. See *Polygala paludosa.*

Frijol de venado. See *Phaseolus xalapensis.*

Frijolillo. See *Cassia laevigata.*

Fruta de pitillo. See *Dolicholus phaseoloides.*

Fustán de vieja. See *Aspidosperma megalocarpon.*

Granadilla de montaña. See *Prestonia macrocarpa.*

Granadillo del monte. See *Passiflora coriacea.*

Guacamayo. See *Andira excelsa* (?).

Guambo. See *Phoebe ambigens.*

Guamo. See *Inga spuria.*

Guamo mero. See *Inga* sp.

Guamo paterno. See *Inga* sp.

Guanacaste. See *Enterolobium cyclocarpum.*

Guano. See *Ochroma bicolor.*

Guapillo. See *Eriosema diffusum.*

Guapinol. See *Hymenaea courbaril.*

Guarumo. See *Cecropia* sp.

Guarumo de montaña. See *Pourouma aspera.*

Guayabo de sabana. See *Psidium guajava.*

Guazuma ulmifolia Lam. CAULOTE. CONTAMAL. CUAULOTE. TAPACULO. STERCULIACEAE.
A tree with small white fragrant flowers.

Gynandropsis speciosa (H. B. K.) DC. ALELÍ. CAPPARIDACEAE.

Hamelia erecta Jacq. CHICHIPÍN. RUBIACEAE.
A slender shrub or tree with orange-red flowers. The leaves are mashed and put on cuts, a use doubtless suggested by the color of the flowers.

Heisteria media Blake. PATE MACHO. OLACACEAE.

Helicteres guazumaefolia H. B. K. PALO DE CAPULÍN. STERCULIACEAE.
A shrub with slender tubular salmon-red flowers.

Heliotropium indicum L. BORRAJA. BORAGINACEAE.

Higo. See *Ficus costaricana.*

Hoja blanca. See *Buddleia americana.*

Hoja de zope. See *Cornutia pyramidata.*

Homolepis aturensis (H. B. K.) Chase. TRIGO DE MONTAÑA. POACEAE.

Hormigo. See *Platymiscium polystachyum.*

Huisquilete. See *Amaranthus spinosus.*

Huizcoyol. See *Bactris* sp.

Hule chirrio. See *Castilla fallax.*

Hunierpa. See *Piper auritum amplifolium.*

Hymenaea courbaril L. GUAPINOL. PALITO COLORADO. FABACEAE.

A tree up to 10 meters high.

Hymenocallis littoralis (Jacq.) Salisb. LIRIO BLANCO. AMARYLLIDACEAE.

An herb growing in low savannas, with a cluster of flowers like an Easter lily. Grown to some extent for decoration.

Hyptis verticillata Jacq. VERBENA. MENTHACEAE.

A shrub, with whitish rather fragrant flowers. Used for stomach troubles.

Icaco. See *Chrysobalanus icaco.*

Indigofera lespedezioides H. B. K. CACHICAHUA. ESCORZONERA DE JIQUILITE. FABACEAE.

An herb with mostly 5-foliolate leaves and small salmon flowers. Used for stomach troubles.

Inga spuria (Poir.) Humb. & Bonpl. CUJE. GUAMO. FABACEAE.

A tree with white flowers. The fruit said to be greenish, half a meter long, eaten when fresh.

Inga sp. GUAMO MERO. GUAMO PATERNO. FABACEAE.

Ingerto de montaña. See *Lucuma laeteviridis.*

Iresine arbuscula Uline & Bray. CENICERO. AMARANTHACEAE.

A tree with white odorous flowers. The wood is burned and the cinders used for soap making.

Iscanal. See *Acacia* sp.

Ischaemum latifolium (Spreng.) Kunth. CARICILLO. POACEAE.

Isote. See *Yucca aloifolia* (?).

Ito. See *Cydista pubescens.*

Jatropha curcas L. PINÓN. EUPHORBIACEAE.

Jocomico. See *Rheedia intermedia.*

Jocote de mico. See *Rheedia intermedia.*

Jussiaea suffruticosa L. ONAGRACEAE.

An herb with yellow 4-petalled flowers. An infusion of the plant is used for pains in the stomach and head.

Juste. See *Sapium* sp.

Lagarto. See *Acacia* sp., also *Zanthoxylum* sp.

Lanillo. See *Ochroma bicolor.*

Lantana camara L. COMIDA DE PALOMA. VERBENACEAE.

Lasiacis procerrima (Hack.) Hitchc. COLA DE VENADO. POACEAE.

A gress with broad leaves and a large panicle, looking much like sorghum.

Lasiacis sorghoidea (Desv.) Hitchc. & Chase. CARIZO. POACEAE.

A climbing grass.

Laurel. See *Cordia gerascanthus.*

Lechuga de agua. See *Pontederia rotundifolia.*

Licania arborea Seem. ENCINO. ROSACEAE.

A tree up to 20 meters high.

Licania hypoleuca Benth. CHOZO. ROSACEAE.

Licania platypus (Hemsl.) Fritsch. SUNCO (Guatemala). URACO (Honduras). ROSACEAE.

Limón. See *Citrus aurantiifolia.*

Lippia umbellata Cav. SECA-LECHE. VERBENACEAE.

Liquidambar. See *Liquidambar styraciflua.*

Liquidambar styraciflua L. LIQUIDAMBAR. HAMAMELIDACEAE.

The tree is tapped for the resin, and the wood is used for general building purposes. Reaches a height of 30 meters or more.

Lirio. See *Epidendrum fragrans* and *E. varicosum.*

Lirio blanco. See *Hymenocallis littoralis.*

Llallo. See *Luehea seemannii.*

Lonchocarpus izabalanus Blake. ALMENDRO. FABACEAE.

Lucuma laeteviridis Pittier. INGERTO DE MONTAÑA. ZAPOTILLO CALENTURIENTO. SAPOTACEAE.

Luehea seemannii Triana & Planch. CONTAMAL. CONTONRON. LLALLO. TILIACEAE.

A tree up to 25 meters high, 0.5 meter in diameter.

Lycopersicum esculentum cerasiforme (Dunal) A. Gray. TOMATE. SOLANACEAE.

A small wild tomato, its fruit red when ripe, about the size of a cherry, sold in the markets at Los Amates and elsewhere.

Macuelizo. See *Tecoma pentaphylla.*

Malacapa. See *Zanthoxylum* sp.

Malvavisco. See *Anoda hastata.*

Mandevilla auriculata (Stadelm.) K. Sch. BEJUCO DE CULEBRA. APOCYNACEAE.

Mangle. See *Decazyx macrophyllus.*

Mano de león. See *Sterculia carthaginensis,* also *Tecoma pentaphylla.*

Manzanilla. See *Ximenia americana.*

Manzano de montaña. See *Bellucia costaricensis.*

Masico. See *Brosimum terrabanum.*

Matapalo. See *Ficus hemsleyana.*

Matayba (?) sp. CARBONCILLO. SAPINDACEAE.

A large tree with white flowers.

Media-luna. See *Passiflora coriacea.*

Meibomia axillaris (Swartz) Kuntze. MOZOTE. FABACEAE.

Meibomia scorpiurus (Swartz) KUNTZE. PEGAPEGA. FABACEAE.

The infusion is taken for fevers.

Meibomia supina (Swartz) Britton. MOZOTE. MOZOTE ANCHO. SACATE BUCHO. FABACEAE.

Used for fodder. The infusion is drunk for gonorrhoea.

Meibomia triflora (L.) Kuntze. PLATÍ. FABACEAE.

A prostrate plant with violet flowers. The infusion is taken for stomach troubles.

Melanthera hastifolia Blake,[9] FLOR DE LA VIDA. ASTERACEAE.

Melanthera nivea (L.) Small. YERBA DEL CABALLO. ASTERACEAE.

An herb with white button-like heads, furnishing good fodder for horses.

Miconia lacera (Bonpl.) Naud. SIRÍN. MELASTOMATACEAE.

The name sirín is applied indiscriminately to the smaller members of this family.

Miconia schlimii Triana. CEREZO. MELASTOMATACEAE.

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[9] For illustration see Contr. U. S. Nat. Herb. 24: *fig. 3.* 1922.

Mimosa pudica L. PUTA VIEJA. FABACEAE.

An herbaceous sensitive plant with pinkish-white button-like heads. The infusion is taken for gonorrhoea.

Mimosa sp. ZARZA DE RÍO. FABACEAE.

Mirasol. See *Baltimora recta.*

Móhan. See *Calathea insignis.*

Mora. See *Chlorophora tinctoria.*

Moro. See *Quararibaea* sp.

Mozote. See *Meibomia axillaris* and *M. supina.*

Mozote ancho. See *Meibomia supina.*

Myrcia (?) sp. DORADILLO. MYRTACEAE.

A tree with opposite entire dotted leaves, the timber used for houses.

Myrica mexicana Willd. ARRAYÁN. MYRICACEAE.

A shrub with white waxy berries, which are used for making candles.

Nancé. See *Byrsonima crassifolia.*

Naranjo. See *Terminalia* sp.

Neea psychotrioides Donn. Sm. CEREZO. NYCTAGINACEAE.

A shrub with purplish-red inedible fruits.

Neuroláena lobata (L.) R. Br. TRESPUNTAS. (PLATE 31.) ASTERACEAE.

An herb about 10 feet high, with three-lobed leaves and yellow heads. The infusion is taken, a cup every morning, for fever and stomach troubles.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE 31.—*Neurolaena lobata,* from *Curtiss* 403, Isle of Pines. Natural size.

Níspero. See *Achras chicle.*

Ochroma bicolor Rowlee. BALSA. GUANO. LANILLO. PALO DE BALSA. TAMBOR. BOMBACACEAE.

A tree up to 25 meters high, 0.8 meter in diameter. The very light wood is used for rafts.

Ocote (pino). See *Pinus oocarpa.*

Ojo de mono. See *Dioclea reflexa.*

Oreja de coche. See *Elephantopus hypomalacus.*

Pacaya. See *Chamaedorea concolor.*

Pacaya guarita. See *Chamaedorea ernsti-augusti.*

Pachira macrocarpa Walp. ZAPOTÓN. BOMBACACEAE.

Palacio. See *Zuelania* sp.

Palito blanco. See *Pithecolobium cognatum* (?).

Palito colorado. See *Hymenaea courbaril.*

Palo chino. See *Elaphrium simaruba.*

Palo de balsa. See *Ochroma bicolor.*

Palo de capulín. See *Helicteres guazumaefolia.*

Palo de leche. See *Brosimum utile.*

Palo jiote. See *Elaphrium simaruba.*

Palo obero. See *Astronium* (?) sp.

Panicum pulchellum Raddi. POACEAE.

A grass used to make pillows.

Passiflora coriacea Juss. GRANADILLO DEL MONTE. MEDIA-LUNA. PASSIFLORACEAE.

A twining passion flower, with leathery half-moon-shaped leaves. An infusion of the seeds is used to kill "chuchus," an unidentified insect.

Pate macho. See *Heisteria media.*

Pectis bonplandiana H. B. K. CULANTRILLO. ASTERACEAE.

A small yellow composite with dotted leaves. The infusion is taken for women's diseases.

Pegapega. See *Meibomia scorpiurus.*

Pelo de macho. See *Capriola dactylon.*

Phaseolus xalapensis H. B. K. FRIJOL DE VENADO. FABACEAE.

Phoebe ambigens Blake.[10] AGUACATILLO. GUAMBO. LAURACEAE.

A tree up to 30 meters high and a meter thick, the wood used for boards.

Pino. See *Pinus oocarpa.*

Piñon. See *Jatropha curcas.*

Pinus oocarpa Schiede. OCOTE (PINO). PINO. PINACEAE.

Wood used for houses and for firewood.

Piojillo. See *Salvia tiliaefolia.*

Piper aduncum L. CORDONCILLO. CUTURO. PIPERACEAE.

The leaves of this species are mashed in water and used as a wash for mange in dogs; the spikes are used as a flavoring for fish.

Piper auritum amplifolium C. DC. HUNIERPA. SANTAMARIA. (PLATE 32.) PIPERACEAE.

The broad leaves have a strong sassafras or sarsaparilla odor, and are used to make a refreshing tea; the spikes of flowers are used to season fish.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE 32.—*Piper auritum amplifolium,* from *Blake* 7639, Guatemala. Natural size.

Piper donnell-smithii C. DC. CORDONCILLO. PIPERACEAE.

Piper jalapense C. DC. CORDONCILLO. PIPERACEAE.

Piper rohrii C. DC. CORDON. CUTURO. CUTURO NEGRO. PIPERACEAE.

Used for washing wounds.

Piper sp. CUTURO NEGRO. PIPERACEAE.

The ashes are used for soap-making.

Pithecollobium arboreum (L.) Urban. COLA DE MARRANO. COLA DE MICO. QUEBRACHO. FABACEAE.

A tree up to 40 meters high. The wood is used for posts and houses.

Pithecollobium cognatum Benth. (?) PALITO BLANCO. FABACEAE.

Pithecollobium sp. YAGUAY. FABACEAE.

This tree furnishes a fine-grained hard wood, taking a good polish, but it is not of large size.

Platí. See *Meibomia triflora.*

Platymiscium polystachyum Benth. HORMIGO. FABACEAE.

A very important timber tree, up to 30 meters high and a meter in diameter. The wood is used for house posts and railroad ties.

Plumajillo. See *Schizolobium kellermani.*

Polygala paludosa St. Hil. FLOR DEL TAMIZ. POLYGALACEAE.

Polygonum punctatum Ell. CANILLA DE PAVA. CHILILLO. POLYGONACEAE.

The leaves are used to make a wash for mangy dogs.

Pontederia rotundifolia L. f. LECHUGA DE AGUA. PONTEDERIACEAE.

A water herb, with heart-shaped leaves and spikes of pale lavender flowers.

Pourouma aspera Tréc. GUARUMO DE MONTAÑA. MORACEAE.

Prestonia macrocarpa Hemsl. GRANADILLA DE MONTAÑA. APOCYNACEAE.

Psidium guajava L. GUAYABO DE SABANA. MYRTACEAE.

This tree or shrub furnishes the well-known edible guava fruit.

Puta vieja. See *Mimosa pudica.*

Quararibaea sp. MORO. BOMBACACEAE.

The wood of this tree is used for making ox-yokes. The leaves have a fragrance like that of slippery elm.

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[10] For illustration see Contr. U. S. Nat. Herb. 24: *pl. 2.* 1922.

Quebracho. See *Pithecollobium arboreum*, also *Terminalia* sp.

Quercus brachystachys Benth. ROBLE. FAGACEAE.

Quercus citrifolia Liebm. ENCINO. FAGACEAE.

Quercus oleoides Cham. & Schlecht. ROBLECITO. FAGACEAE.

Quiebramuela. See *Clusia utilis.*

Randia armata (Swartz) DC. ROSETILLO. RUBIACEAE.

Rheeda intermedia Pittier. JOCOMICO. JOCOTE DE MICO. CLUSIACEAE.

Roble. See *Quercus brachystachys.*

Roblecito. See *Quercus oleoides.*

Ronrón. See *Astronium* (?) sp.

Rosetillo. See *Randia armata.*

Ruellia pilosa Pavon. VIOLETA. ACANTHACEAE.

An herb, growing in wet places, with magenta flowers.

Sacate bucho. See *Meibomia supina.*

Salvador balsam. See *Toluifera pereirae.*

Salvia tiliaefolia Vahl. ENELDO DE MONTAÑA. PÍOJILLO. MENTHACEAE.

An herb, with tiny bluish flowers. It is used to kill head lice.

Sangre. See *Compsoneura sprucei*, also *Virola merendonis.*

Sangre de drago. See *Croton draco.*

San Juan. See *Vochysia guatemalensis.*

Sanpedrano. See *Acacia* sp., also *Vochysia guatemalensis.*

Santamaria. See *Calophyllum* sp., also *Piper auritum amplifolium.*

Sapium sp. JUSTE. EUPHORBIACEAE.

Sarsaparilla. See ZARZAPARILLA.

Saurauja sp. ZAPOTILLO. DILLENIACEAE.

Sauvagesia erecta L. YERBA DEL JUDIO. OCHNACEAE.

An ascending herb with small white flowers and violet stamens.

Schizolobium kellermani Pittier. PLUMAJILLO. ZORRA. FABACEAE.

A tall, handsome tree, with slender white trunks and a feathery head of foliage.

Seca-leche. See *Lippia umbellata.*

Serjania mexicana Willd. BARBASCO. SAPINDACEAE.

A twining plant, used for poisoning fish.

Sideroxylon tempisque Pittier. TEMPISQUE. SAPOTACEAE.

Sideroxylon (?) sp. CAÑAMITO. SAPOTACEAE.

A tree with bitter red sap, the wood used for ties.

Sile. See *Calliandra* sp.

Sirín. See *Miconia lacera.*

Sisín. See *Terminalia* sp.

Smilax ornata Lemaire. ZARZAPARILLA. (PLATE 33.) LILIACEAE.

Foliage specimens of officinal sarsaparilla were collected near Izabal, and a flowering specimen has recently been sent me from the same locality by Señor M. Hernandez C. The species is said to flower in Guatemala from January to March; the root is collected from January to April, and is not valuable afterwards. The roots are done up in small bundles, tied with pieces of the stem, and dried for a week over a slow fire. They are then tied up in bundles of 100 to 150 pounds, and shipped to New York, where they bring about one cent a pound. The plant grows in swamps, and has a thick four-angled stem with strong retrorsely curved spines, and large ovate leaves sparsely spiny on the nerves beneath.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE 33.—*Smilax ornata*, from *Blake* 7865, Guatemala. Natural size.

Solanum torvum Swartz. TOMATILLO. SOLANACEAE.

Stenorrhynchus sp. CHILE DEL MONTE. ORCHIDACEAE.

Sterculia carthaginensis Cav. MANO DE LEÓN. STERCULIACEAE.

Stigmaphyllon mucronatum (DC.) A. Juss. BEJUCO DE RATÓN. MALPIGHIACEAE.

A twining herb. The fruit is said to be whitish with a blackish seed, and to be eaten by rats.

Stylosanthes guyanensis (Aubl.) Swartz. YERBA DEL CAMPO. FABACEAE.

An herb with small trifoliolate leaves and yellow flowers. An infusion of the plant is taken for pains in the side.

Sunco. See *Licania platypus.*

Suquinay. See *Vernonia aschenborniana.*

Sweetia panamensis Benth. CHICHIPATE. FABACEAE.

A tree up to 30 meters high. The wood is used for posts, ties, and houses.

Swietenia macrophylla King. CAOBA. MELIACEAE.

This, the Honduras mahogany, occurs on the eastern coast of Central America from Campeche to Honduras and for an undetermined distance southward, and is at present the most important species of mahogany commercially.

Symphonia globulifera L. f. VARILLO. CLUSIACEAE.

Tabaquillo. See *Chelonanthus acutangulus.*

Tabernaemontana amblyblasta Blake.[11] CHAPUPO. COJÓN DE GATO. COJÓN DE MICO. APOCYNACEAE.

A shrub about 5 meters high, with panicles of creamy-yellow flowers and opposite entire leaves. The fruit is said to be green or yellow. The milky juice of this plant is mixed with chicle for local use. It is also put on the flesh with a piece of tobacco leaf to draw out carnivorous insect larvae.

Talauma poasana Pittier (?). YOROCONTE. MAGNOLIACEAE.

A tree up to 40 meters high. The wood is used for posts and house construction.

Tamarindo. See *Dialium divaricatum,* also *Terminalia* sp.

Tamarindo prieto. See *Dialium divaricatum.*

Tambor. See *Ochroma bicolor.*

Tapaculo. See *Guazuma ulmifolia.*

Té. See *Eupatorium pycnocephalum.*

Tecoma pentaphylla Juss. MACUELIZO (?). MANO DE LEÓN. BIGNONIACEAE.

A tree up to 25 meters high, with palmately compound leaves and large pink flowers. The wood is used in house building.

Tecoma sp. CORTEZ. BIGNONIACEAE.

Tempisque. See *Sideroxylon tempisque.*

Terminalia sp. NARANJO. QUEBRACHO. SISÍN. TAMARINDO. COMBRETACEAE.

The wood of this tree is used for ties and general construction.

Thevetia plumeriaefolia Benth. CÓJON DE GATO. APOCYNACEAE.

Toluifera pereirae (Klotzsch) Baill. SALVADOR BALSAM. FABACEAE.

This tree grows on the mountain crests around La Florida, Honduras, and a small amount of the balsam is extracted for commercial purposes.

Tomate. See *Lycopersicum esculentum cerasiforme.*

Tomatillo. See *Solanum torvum.*

Trespuntas. See *Neurolaena lobata.*

Tridax procumbens L. CURA-GUSANO. ASTERACEAE.

A trailing herb with creamy-yellow rays and yellow disk. The leaves are put on the flesh to kill carnivorous insect larvae.

Trigo de montaña. See *Homolepis aturensis.*

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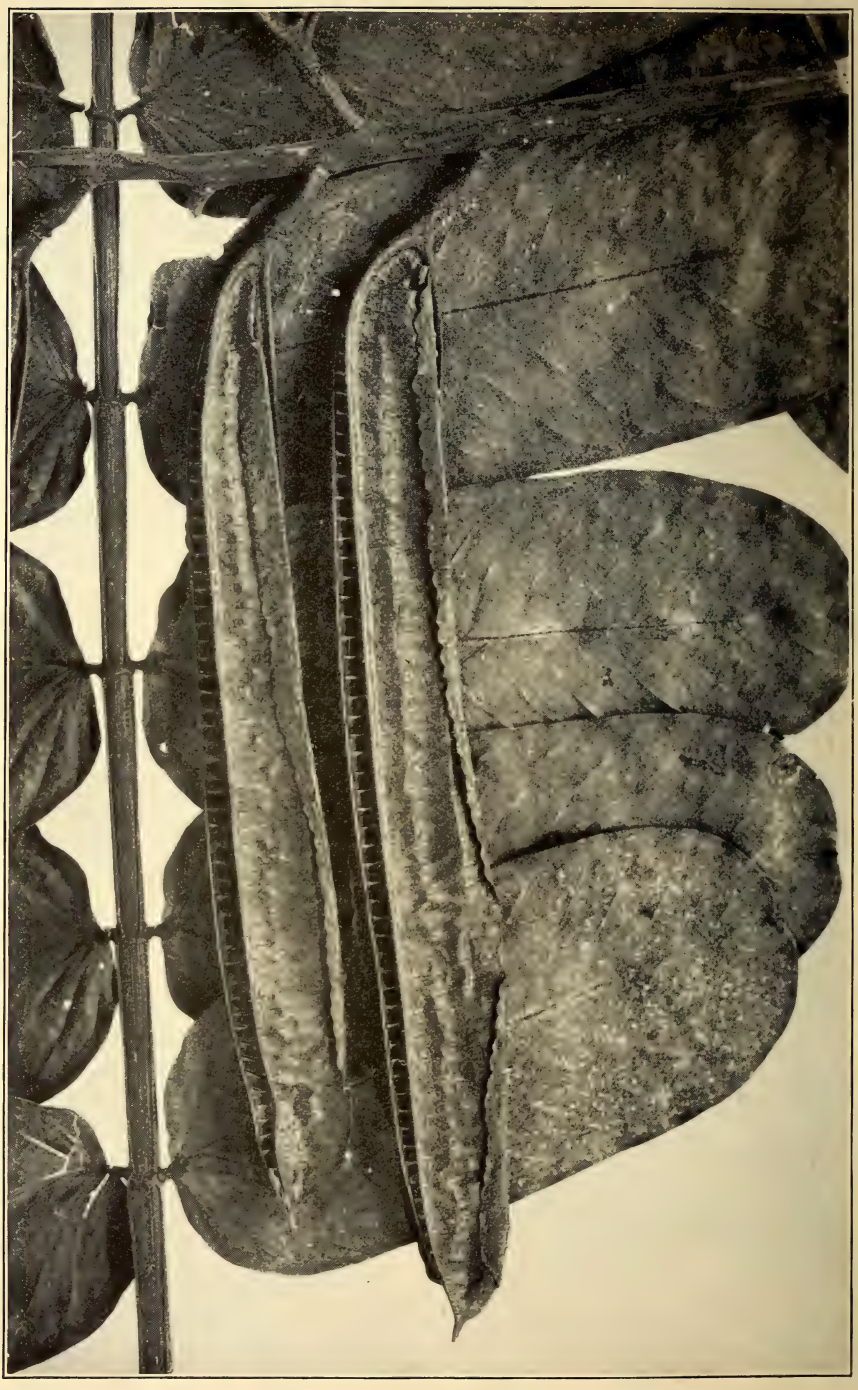
[11] For illustration see Contr. U. S. Nat. Herb. **24**: *pl. 6.* 1922.

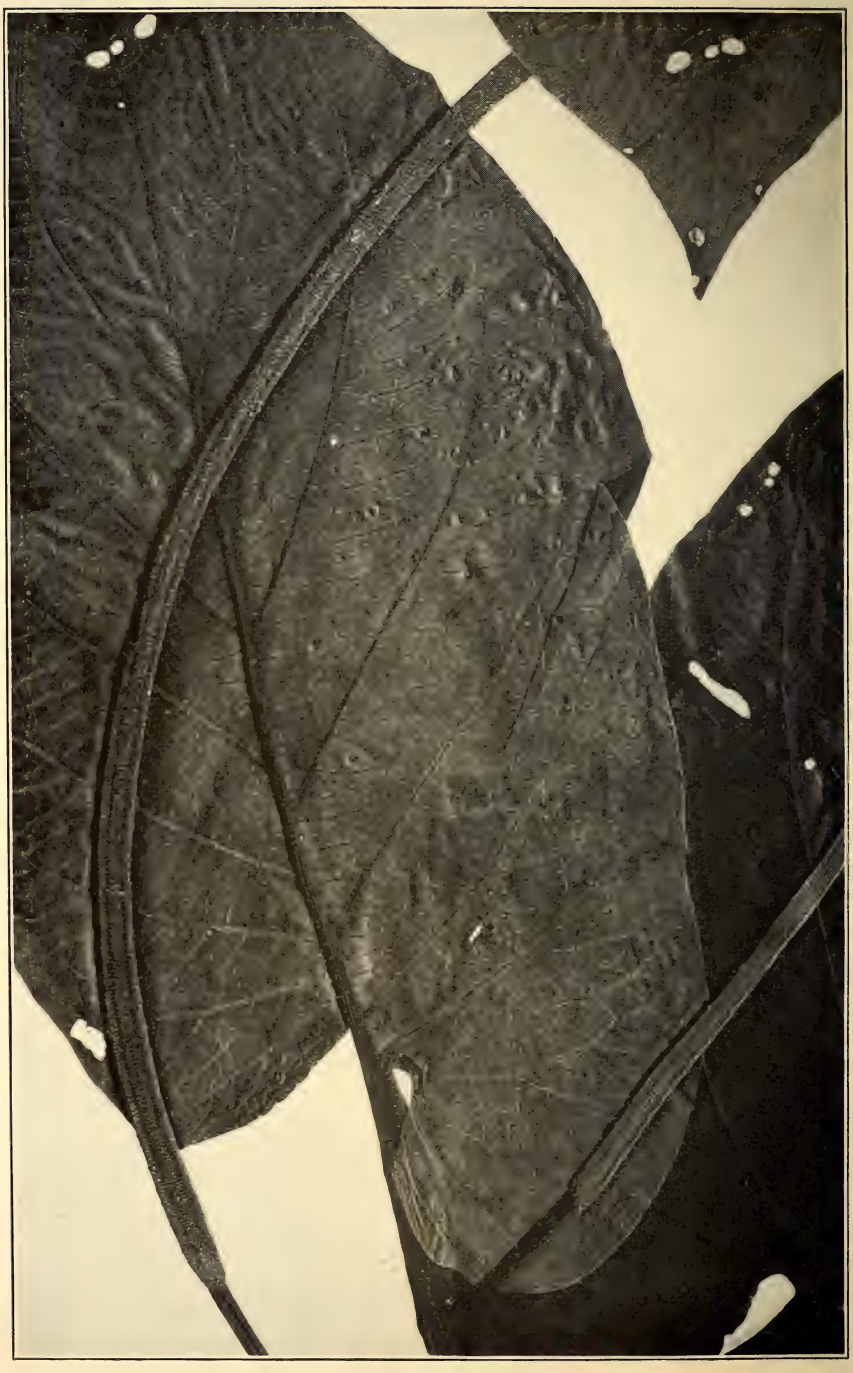
Tronero del monte. See *Buchnera lithospermifolia.*
Tule chiquito. See *Eleocharis sulcata.*
Tuno. See *Castilla fallax.*
Uisquilete. See *Amaranthus spinosus.*
Uraco. See *Licania platypus.*
Valeriana. See *Chaptalia nutans.*
Vara blanca. See *Casearia corymbosa.*
Varillo. See *Symphonia globulifera.*
Verbena. See *Hyptis verticillata.*
Vernonia aschenborniana Schauer. SUQUINAY. ASTERACEAE.
A shrub with purplish flowers, used for stomach troubles.
Violeta. See *Ruellia pilosa.*
Virola merendonis Pittier. DRAGO. SANGRE. MYRISTICACEAE.
A tree up to 35 meters high, with leaves rusty-tomentose beneath, and a red sap. The wood is used for boards. The fruits are eaten by fishes.
Vismia ferruginea H. B. K. ACHIOTILLO. HYPERICACEAE.
Vitex longeracemosa Pittier. BARRABAS (?). VERBENACEAE.
A tree with palmately compound leaves and lilac flowers.
Vochysia guatemalensis Donn. Sm. SAN JUAN. SANPEDRANO. VOCHYSIACEAE.
A tree up to 25 meters high, with slender yellow flowers. The wood is used for boards.
Ximenia americana L. MANZANILLA. OLACACEAE.
A tree with yellow astringent fruits, the size of a small plum, generally eaten cooked.
Yaguay. See *Pithecollobium* sp.
Yerba del caballo. See *Melanthera nivea.*
Yerba del campo. See *Stylosanthes guyanensis.*
Yerba del judio. See *Sauvagesia erecta.*
Yerba del toro. See *Borreria* sp.
Yoroconte. See *Talauma poasana* (?).
Yucca aloifolia L. (?) ISOTE. LILIACEAE.
A quick-growing tree, with large white flowers in a terminal panicle. A specimen about 18 feet high and 30 inches in circumference was said to be only about 8 years old. The flower cluster is cooked in salted water and eaten, but is rather bitter. Rope is made from the fibre of the leaves.
Zanthoxylum sp. CEIBILLO. LAGARTO. MALACAPA. RUTACEAE.
Zapote. See *Calocarpum mammosum.*
Zapotillo. See *Achras chicle*, also *Saurauja* sp.
Zapotillo calenturiento. See *Lucuma laeteviridis.*
Zapotón. See *Pachira macrocarpa.*
Zarza de rio. See *Mimosa* sp.
Zarzaparilla. See *Smilax ornata.*
Zexmenia frutescens (Mill.) Blake. ASTERACEAE.
A composite with yellow flowers. Said to furnish a medicine for infantile fevers.
Zorra. See *Schizolobium kellermani.*
Zuelania sp. PALACIO. FLACOURTIACEAE.

ACHRAS CHICLE PITTIER.



CASSIA ALATA L.

NEUROLAENA LOBATA (L.) R. BR.



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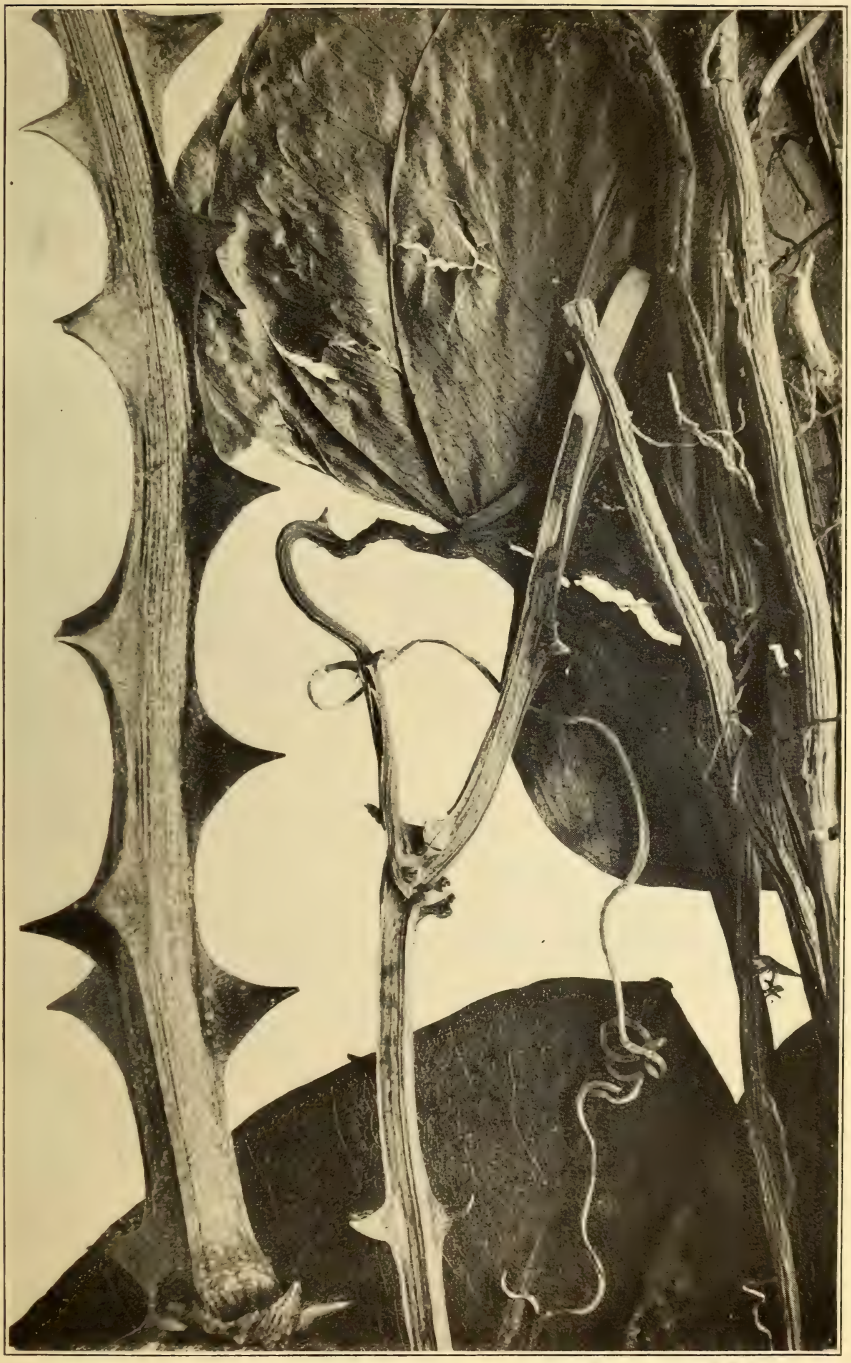

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Native names and uses of some plants of